The

REWARD

of

OPPRESSION,

TYRANNY and INJUSTICE.

Committed by the late *King* and *Queene* of *England*, and others, by the unlawful Entry, and unlawful Deteiner of the Dutchie Lands of LANCASTER.

Declared in the Case of *Samuel Beck*, an Infant, and Directed to his *Highnesse* OLIVER, [illegible] PROTECTOR of *England*, *&c.* and to the [illegible] Honorable his PRIVY COUNSEL.

By MARGARET BECK *widdow Late* [illegible] of Nevil Beck, *Mother and Guardian to the* Infant.

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THE

REWARD

OF OPPRESSION.

TO HIS HIGHNESS OLIVER LORD PROTECTOR *Of ENGLAND, &c.*

May it pleas your Highness

TO look upon the case of the poor Childe concerning his Title to the lands of the Dutchie of *Lancaster.*

It hath pleased God, that the power of Justice is now devolved on your Highness, and the most honorable Privie Counsel. And you are now the fountain thereof.

KIng *Ed.* 4. and his Counsel, heard the Caus of the Masters and poor Brethren of the Hospital of St. *Leonard's* in *York*, complayning that Sir *Hugh Hastings*, *John Wombel*, and others, withdrew from them a great part of their Living, which consisted chiefly upon the having of a Thrave of Corn of each Plough-land in the Counties of *York*, *Westmorland*, *Cumberland*, and *Lancashire*, and for which they, being very poor men, were not able to sue for at the Common Law: *Rotulo pat. de An.* 8. *E.* 4. *part* 3. *memb.* 14. and yet they had for that Hospital a special Act of

Parliament, made for them, to give them action in that verie case: 2. *Hen. Cap.* 2.

That there are many Presidents in the like case, where the single person and his privy Counsel heard & determined causes for the poor against oppression

Shee make's bold to offer this to your Highness with confidence, becaus heretofore you knew her poor Husband, and have pitied his case, and have been a friend to him out of your bountie and goodness.

May it plea[s]e your Highness, shee is so poor, that shee is fain by her Needle to maintain her self and poor Child, hardly.

Therefore her humble petition is, that your Highness will bee pleased to order her a hearing in the behalf of her child, before your Highness, and your privy Counsel, in this case; and to assign her Counsel, and in the mean time out of your bountie and goodness to allow her for the present maintenance for her Child; A petition as it hath pleased your Highness graciously to afford to others; and the prayers of the Widdow and Fatherless will bee for your Highness happiness, &c,

To

To the *Right Honorable* the *Lords* of his *Highnes's* moſt Honorable *Privy Counſel*,

The humble Petition of *Margaret Beck* widdow Humbly ſheweth,

THat *in all ages extraordinary cauſes were heard and determined before the ſingle perſon and his privy Counſel, as in the caſe of* Bogo de Clare, *notwithſtanding hee was diſmiſt out of Parlament for Error in the complaint; yet the King commanded him by Writ* ad faciendum & recipiendum quod per Regem & concilium fuerit faciendum: *and ſo proceed to a Reexamination of the whole Cauſ* 18. *E.* 1.

And in the caſe of Elizabeth the widdow of Nicolas Audley *againſt* James Audley *concerning her dowrie,* 41. *E.* 3.

Alſo in the caſe of William Goddard *againſt* Hugh Straule *for divers Mannors in the Iſle of Tanet,* 6. *E.* 5.

Alſo in the caſe of Robert Danvers *a Counſeller againſt* William Brocket *a Clark of the Exchequer,* 21. *H.* 6.

Another concerning the innocency of the Lord Ralph Cromwell *Chamberlain to H.* 6. *concerning the villanous accuſation of one* Robert Colindona *Prieſt for ſuſpition of treaſon,* 31. *H.* 6. *alſo*

In

In the case of the Abbot of S. Edmond's-Bury *against* Walter Thurston *and others, 20. E. 4. also*

In the case of Fardinando de Sanciago *a Spaniard H. 7. with many more presidents in those and other Kings raigns, and in the book of orders by the privy Counsel in the Minoritie of H 6. in the 3 Article that all bills terminable at the Common Law, shall bee remitted thither, unless the discretion of the Counsel feel too great might on the one partie, and unmight on the other, or cause reasonable to move them; and in the 14 article that the Clerk of the Counsel shall bee swo n that each day of sitting hee shall call the bills of the poorest sutors to bee first read and answered, so neer as hee can ask and inquire, and the Kings serjeant to bee sworn to give Counsel without fee to such as shall bee accepted upon pain to bee discharged of their offices which were the verie words of the articles.*

Therefore her humble petition is, that you would be pleased to look upon the following case, and to assign her counsel, videl. Sergeant Maynard, Mr Lach, and Mr Freeman &c.

And to order that shee may have Coppie of such records as concern the Dutchie of Lancaster *and that her Counsel and Agent may search for the same without Fees, shee being miserably poor; and that those who have entered on the Lands of the said Dutchie may bee summoned to answer to her Bill in the behalf of the* Infant: *and shee shall daily pray.* &c.

HENRY

HENRY the 4. after his Coronation, created *Thomas Beaufort* Earl of *Dorset*, and gave him 20 l. per An. out of the Exchequer, for maintaining the King's Title to the Crown, both at home and abroad; and also* made a Charter of the Dukedome of *Lancaster*, to the second Houſ of *Lancaster* in expectancie, which then was *Tho.* Earl of *Dorset*, who after the deceaſ of H. 4. by virtue of the Charter did enter into the Dukedome, and did enjoy the ſame nine years in the raign of H- 5. and ſix years in the raign of H. 6. and beeing lawfully thereof ſeized, died without iſſue; after whoſe deceaſ the ſaid Dukedom deſcended to the next heir at the common Law, which was *Joan* Counteſs of *Weſtmorland* his Siſter, who had iſſue *George Nevil* Lord Latimer, who had Sir *Henry Nevil*, who had iſſue *Richard* Lord Latimer, and *Thomas Nevil* twins, *Richard* died without iſſue; *Thomas* had iſſue *Elizabeth* his onely daughter and heir, who intermarried with *Wil. Beck* Eſq. who had iſſue *Sam. Beck*, whohad iſſue *Nevil Beck*, who had iſſue *Sam. Beck*, an Infant now living.

H. 6. Contrary to the Charter made by H. 4. entered by intruſion, for which the quarrel began between the Houſes of *York* and *Lancaſter*.

E. 4. conquered H. 6. and entered upon all his Lands as eſcheted, becauſ hee found the Lands of the Dukedome of *Lancaſter* in his poſſeſſion, hee kept that alſo for his better ſtrength and ſecuritie, and died; who had iſſue *Edward* and *Richard* Infants, murthered in their Infancie by *Richard* 3. who

uſurped

* This is a most damnable lye by both ye Parl. roll & ye Pat. roll of the part of H. 4 will shew where that Dukedome was then settled on Prince Henry with the name & title of Duke of Lancaster.

usurped both the Crown and Lands of the Dukedome of *Lancaster*.

H. 7. who had been banished, came into *England* with forces onely to claim the Earldom of *Richmond*, and fought with, and killed R. 3. and took upon him the Crown, and also entered upon the Dukedome of *Lancaster*, taking his president from R. 3. E. 4. and H. 6. and kept it all his time, and left it to H. 8.

In the first year of *Mary* an office was found, after the death of *Elizabeth*, daughter of *Tho.* Lord Latimer and wife of *William Beck*, whereby *Samuel Beck* grandfather to this Infant was found heir to the Dukedome of *Lancaster*, as heir to his Mother who had been lamentably persecuted, and constrained to flie from place to place, for fear of beeing burnt for Heresie (as they called it) by that Cruel woman Queen *Mary*.

never Lord Latimer.

This office was prosecuted and found by one *Heath*, Father in law to *Samuel Beck* the Grandfather; Hee beeing an Infant, and at School at *Westminster*, and in the 3 year of *Philip* and *Mary*, *Samuel Beck* beeing under nine years of age, was seized by Warrant, and delivered to *Rixam* a *Romish* Priest to bee bred up in the *Romish* Religion, (the Queen then pretending love to him being her Kinsman) and hee must bee carriried away from all his honorable Kindred, and there must bee called *Heath* after his Father in Law's name, hoping by this cheat to defraud the Office, and that hee was not that partie found heir in the Office.

When that Queen died, *Heath* found out the child, and bred him at *Oxford*, and matriculated him by the right name of *Beck*: and when hee came to bee capable of the Ministry, Queen *Elizabeth* gave him two great benefices in *Devonshire* and *Cornwall*, with which preferment hee contented himself untill much importuned by many of his noble Kindred, and especially

eſpecially the then Earl of *Worceſter*, to challenge his right to the Dukedome of *Lancaſter*; whereupon hee made his application to Queen *Elizabeth* by Petition; who anſwered, that the Dukedome was caſt upon her without her means or procurement, and that ſhee deſired to have him advanced to his right and dignity, hee beeing ſo near allied to her; and ordered, that no more grant of the Dutchie lands ſhould paſs untill it was tried in Parlament, and alſo offered him great honor and dignity in the Church of *England*; but before it was determined in Parlament, the Queen died.

Then hee petitioned King *James* for a hearing in Parlament, and to aſſign him Counſel, who did (*viz.*) Sergeant *Harris*, Sergeant *Jones*, Mr *Dyett*, and Mr George *Crook*, and then contrary to Law committed him cloſe priſoner, without Ink or Paper, and ſo kept him in priſon untill a little before his death, that the King intended to call a Parlament; and being fearful that the horrible piece of tyrannie would bee queſtioned, hee releaſed him, and promiſed him fair, (as hee knew well enough how to diſſemble, and called it nothing but King-craft) but performed nothing during his life. And after his death, it beeing told King *James*, that the Duke of *Lancaſter* was dead, hee anſwered, *God have mercie on* Charls *and his Iſſue, for hee had don the Duke of* Lancaſter *mickle wrong*, and that hee (meaning Mr *Beck*) *had left a heavie curſe behind him*; which were King *James* his own words; for it was Mr *Beck*'s cuſtom when hee ſpake with the King, to deſire God *to deal by the King and his, as the King had dealt with him*. Shortly after King *James* dyed,

Then *Nevil Beck* beeing in his travels beyond the ſeas came back to claim his right to the Dukedom of *Lancaſter* of King *Charls*, who delayed him, and would not conſent to a hearing; whereupon *Nevil Beck* deſired 400 l. *per An.* for his maintenance for the preſent; but the King anſwered, that,

if hee gave him that, it would enable *Nevil Beck* to make a caſe of it, and ſo go to Law with him: whereupon ſom high words of diſcontent paſſed from *Nevil Beck* in relation to his wrong, that the King in fury cauſed him to bee put out of the Court Gates, and gave order that the Porters ſhould not ſuffer him to com in at any time after, which cauſed *Nevil Beck* to uſe theſe words to the Kings ſervants; *I do believ I ſhall live to ſee him turned out, and that neither hee nor his ſhall have any thing to do with this houſ*, meaning *Whitehall*.

Then *Nevil Beck* petitioned the Lord's and Commons of the late long Parlament to hear his caſe, who deferred the hearing of it, telling him that hee muſt firſt get an allowance from the King, who was then at *Oxford* in open hoſtility againſt the Parlament; and unleſs that were firſt don they could not give allowance to his Bill, which how impoſſible that was to bee don, let the world judg; and after the King's execution they anſwered him, that they had pulled down the houſ of *York*, and aboliſhed Kingſhip, and therefore it would bee dangerous to ſet up the houſ of *Lancaſter*; but iſſued out to him ſom ſmall ſummes at ſeveral times, which kept him onely from ſtarving, and alſo forbad the ſale of the Dutchie Lands, and after his death iſſued out 20 l. to the uſe of his Son *Samuel Beck* the Infant by way of acknowledgment.

The Dutchie Lands were unſold untill the aſſembly after at *Weſtminſter*, (who voted themſelvs a Parlament) ordained the ſale of the Dutchie Lands.

The

The answer of his HIGHNESS most honorable privie Counsel, to the Case of Samuel Beck, *as followeth.*

JOhn of *Gaunt* had the Dukedome of *Lancaster* by his first wife, heir of *Henry*, Duke of *Lancaster*. *pag.* 326.

By that first wife hee had H. 4. and *Philip* marrried to *John* King of *Portugal*, and *Elizabeth* married to *John Holland* Duke of *Exeter*, and afterwards to Sir *John Cornwall*.

But *Thomas* Earl of *Dorset* came from *Katharine Swinford* the third wife, so did *Joan Beaufort* married to the Earl of *Westmerland*, from whom *Beck* claimes *pag.* 327.

And *pag.* 328. it is said that H. 4. united the Ductchie to the Crown which himself held, and H. 5. and H. 6. which are true heirs to it.

Neither is it likely that H. 4. would pass it to a female descended from *Katharine Swinford*, who had divers sons himself *pag.* 992. *Joan Beufort*, sister of *Tho. Beufort* of *Dorset*, was second wife of *Ralph Nevil* Earl of *Westmorland*, and this Earl had a son called *Richard Nevil* Earl of *Salisbury*, in right of his wife, and hee had issue first *Richard Nevil* the King-maker, and six daughters, from whom came the Earl of *Derby*, Earl of *Arundel*, the Lord *Beuchamp*, the Earl of *Huntingdon*, the Earl of *Pembrook* and *Montgomery*, hee had also a ninth sonn called *William Nevil*, Lord *Falconberg* after Earl of *Kent*, whose three daughters married *Coyners Strange wales*, and *Bedbaring*, and a twelvth was *George Nevil*, Lord Latimer (whom the printed paper cites) which *Barony* his Father purchased with the Lands of Latimer, and bestowed them on

*Brockett & Bethunit should be.

 his

his ſonn *George*, Lord Latimer from whom *Beck* claims in the paper.

But how can any thing deſcend on the daughter of this Lord Latimer from *Joan Beufort*, when all the families before mentioned, *Derby*, *Arundell*, &c. deſcend from the elder ſon of *Joan Beuford* by marriage with his daughters, and *George Latimer* was the twelvth ſon of that eldeſt ſon.

The reply of Margaret Beck *widdow, Mother and Guardian to the Infant.*

IT is true, that *John* of *Gaunt* had the Dukedom of *Lancaſter* by his firſt wife, and that hee had H. 4. and two daughters by the firſt wife as is expreſſed in the paper.

And that *Thomas* Earl of *Dorſet*, and *Joan de Beufort* came of the body of *Katharine Swinford* his third wife.

As to *pag.* 328. the paper ſaith, it is ſaid that H. 4. united the Dukedome of *Lancaſter* to the Crown, which proves nothing, but it will bee prooved that H. 4. was ſo far from uniting of it to the Crown, that hee made a Charter of the Dukedom, and confirmed it by act of Parlament to *Thomas de Beufort* in expectancy after his death, and that after his death *Thomas* did enter, and did enjoy it all the time of H. 5. and ſix years in the time of H. 6. and in all that time let Leaſe, and granted Eſtates.

And for that it was unlikely that H. 4. would paſs it to a female, which is no proof; for *Beck's* caſe is not that H. 4. paſſed it to a female, but that *Thomas* dying without iſſue, *Joan* was his next heir at the common Law,

And it doth appear by the grants made by H. 4. to *Thomas de Beufort*, that hee eſteemed him above all others of his family, for in the grants it is for maintaining his Title to the Crown

Crown both at home and abroad, and ſo might verie well truſt him to keep up his Childrens Title to the Crown after his deceaſ.

Alſo it appear's by Record that H. 4. created him Earl of *Dorſet*, and afterwards Duke of *Exeter*, and after that this grant of the Reverſion of the Dukedome of *Lancaſter* thereby the more to enable him to maintain his Children's Title to the Crown.

It doth not appear that *Ralph Nevil* had any more Children by *Joan de Beufert* his ſecond wife, then *George Nevil* Lord Latimer, and *Cicilia*, afterwards married to *Richard Plantagenet* Duke of *York*, from whom the Stewards family deſcended, but it muſt needs bee, that the Children of *Ralph Nevil* were of his firſt wife, otherwiſe how could it bee found in the office after the death of Latimer, and wife of *Beck*, that her Child was heir to *Jone* Counteſs of *Weſtmerland*, and ſo to *Thomas* Earl of *Dorſet*, and Duke of *Lancaſter*. All this appeared by the coppies of the Records allowed by King *James* taken out of the Tower, Court of wards, and Heralds office, when King *James* aſſigned the Child's grandfather Counſel.

Notwithſtanding all this the mother and guardian of the Childe do ſubmit to the *Lord Protector* and his privy Counſel, to deal with her and her poor Childe as they ſhall pleaſ, whereupon the Childe was ſent to *Eaton Colledg* to bee bred there at School, to eat the bread given by H. 6. who firſt intruded on the Dutchie Lands; but the privy Counſel would not hear any further in the caſe.

OB-

OBSERVATIONS.

HENRY 6. entered first by intrusion on the Dutchie Lands of *Lancaster*, after the death of *Tho. de Beufort* Earl of *Dorset*, and Duke of *Lancaster* and *Exeter*, and was afterwards conquered by E. 4. taken prisoner, and murthered in prison, and so lost the Dutchie Lands, Crown, and Life: Also E. 4. kept it by wrong all his life, who was wicked in murthers, and adulterie; hee caused his Brother *George* Duke of *Clarence* to bee drowned in a Butt of Malmsey, his adultery with *Jane shore* and others, and had wars all his time, with those who took part with the houſ of *Lancaster*, his two sons after his death murthered in the Tower by R. 3. The Children are paid for the sins of the Father.

R. 3. would not part with it untill H. 7. killed him at *Bosworth* field, where his body was disgracefully drawn to *Leceſter*, and there buried basely.

H. 7. entered upon the Dutchie Lands and sold much of it, and made abundance of mony by that and unlawfull taxes upon the people, as a most wicked Tyrant, and left it to his son H. 8. who as wickedly spent it as his Father got it, and left E. 6. his son, who died an Infant, and *Mary* his eldest daughter, who wickedly persecuted her sister *Elizabeth*. Shee reigned all her time in a bloody persecution, and died; all three Children of H. 8. raigning successively one after the other, and dying Childless, a curse upon that line.

King *James* entered upon the Lands of the Dukedom left unsold and kept it by oppression, died unnaturally by poison, as hath been apparently prooved; and left King *Charls*, who refused to restore the Lands or give any satisfaction: His end most miserable, arraigned, condemned, and executed at his own door, his wife and Children constrained to live on Alms,

in

in ſtrange Countries: And for the members of the late long Parlament, they were diſgracefully turned out of that power: And laſtly, for the Aſſembly who called themſelvs a Parlament, brake up themſelvs in confuſion, oppreſſion and injuſtice, viſibly puniſhed in this verie caſe.

It is obſerved by good Hiſtorians, that from the body of *John* of *Gaunt* Duke of *Lancaſter* have deſcended lineally one Empreſſe, 32 Chriſtian Kings and Queens, 2 Cardinals, 10 Princes and Princeſſes, and 49 Dukes and Dutcheſſes, &c. as from another *Abraham*, whereof this Infant *Samuel Beck* is the laſt onely heir of that line left in England. The *Stewards* family is alſo deſcended from the ſecond houſe of *Lancaſter*, in expectancie from *Joan* Counteſs of *Weſtmorland*, the daughter of *John* of *Gaunt*; but their deſcent is by her youngeſt daughter the Ladie *Cecilia*, who intermarried with *Richard Plantagenet* Duke of *York*, who had E. 4. and R. 3. but *Samuel Beck* is lineally deſcended from *George* the ſon of *Joan* Counteſs of *Weſtmorland*, who was Brother of the whole blood to *Cecilia* Dutcheſs of *York*, and the iſſue of the Son, in right of his Mother, is to bee anſwered before the iſſue of the daughter; which clear's the caſe for *Samuel Beck* the Infant.

FINIS.